

Dedicated to safe, responsible, and effective drug policies since 1993

TO: Senate Committees on Health & Commerce & Consumer Affairs

FROM: Pamela Lichty, MPH

President

DATE: February 10, 201, 2:00 p.m., room 229

RE: S.B. 2574 RELATING TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA – **IN OPPOSITION**

Aloha Chair Green, Chair Baker and members of the Committees. My name is Pam Lichty and I'm testifying in opposition to this measure on behalf of the Drug Policy Action Group.

S.B. 2574, which would add "board certified pain specialist physician" to the type of physicians qualified to issue written certifications for medical marijuana patients, is an attempt to address an unintended consequence of a measure passed in the 2013 session.

That bill, SB 642, CD1 attempted to address purported problems with Hawaii-licensed physicians flying in from out of state and certifying patients in the absence of the "bona fide physician-patient relationship" acquired by law. Also required in the law, is that the written certification "is based upon the physician's professional opinion after having completed a full assessment of the patient's medical history and current medical condition." There has also been concern that some Hawaii-licensed physicians are seeing patients and issuing registrations in non-medical situations such as at musical festivals or at protest rallies.

In order to address these abuses, language was added to the law requiring that the physician must a be a "primary care physician" (PCP). While we agree that the kinds of inappropriate certifications noted above are skirting the spirit and perhaps the letter of the law, we think that both the current language and the proposed new language create more problems than they solve. Soon after SB 642 passed, we became aware that there are many, many situations where patients do not have access to a primary care physician who is willing or able to issue the certification. Those unable to do so, include physicians affiliated with Kaiser Permanente and those working at Veteran Administration hospitals. Moreover, there is a shortage of primary care physicians on the Neighbor Islands. A further complicating factor is that there is no definition of a PCP in the HRS since it is primarily a term used in the insurance industry.

So the bill before you today is an attempt to add to the range of physicians permitted to issue certifications (keeping in mind that this does not involve prescriptive authority and there are no medications dispensed.) Unfortunately board certified pain specialist physicians are far rarer than even PCPs. Again, the Neighbor Islands are at a particular disadvantage. (I believe there are some 30 doctors state-wide who fall into this category.)

Additionally pain is not the only condition covered by our medical marijuana law. The specified conditions such as cancer, HIV, conditions with muscle spasms such as multiple sclerosis, and more are treated by a range of specialist physicians including ophthalmologists, oncologists, infection disease specialists and many more. To exclude these categories of physicians because they are not PCPs totally contravenes the intent of the law. Moreover, especially when stricken with a serious illness or with an ongoing chronic condition patients often, in effect, use these physicians as their primary care physicians essentially visiting them for all medical situations that may arise.

And the answer is not, as SB 2574 would do, to add to the specific lists of physicians that may do certifications. This would simply open the door to a laundry list of specialty physicians who treat patients with a wide array of the covered conditions.

As advocates for patients, caregivers <u>and</u> physicians for the last 14 years, we believe the most equitable remedy for all concerned is to delete the PCP revision entirely and revert to the original language of the law – which does not specify the type of physician who can certify but rather the type of relationship said physician must have with the patient.

If there are still concerns about misrepresentation among physicians, then perhaps it's the Hawaii Medical Board who should scrutinize the situation and develop tighter guidelines. As your Committees know, the medical marijuana program is transitioning to the Department of Health this year and will be housed there as of January 1, 2015. They are currently in the process of developing new administrative rules. Perhaps instead of changing the original language of the law, DOH could be somehow given the authority to more closely scrutinize the certification requests they receive from physicians. Or DOH could set up a committee to set the standard of practice and what would trigger an audit. They could also be empowered to make referrals to the Medical Board.

Incidentally the description of the bill in the hearing notice says the new language would begin on January 2, 2015 whereas in the bill itself that it takes effect "upon its approval."

We urge the Committees to delete the proposed language **and** the limiting language passed last year to restore the original wording of the law as enacted in 2000.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. Of course we are available now, as well as in the future, to answer any questions you may have.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/email: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com



AMENDED TESTIMONY Please disregard testimony sent at 3:53 pm 2.9.14

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Sen. Josh Green, Chair Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Monday, February 10, 2014 2:00 p.m. Room 229

OPPOSE SB 2574 - Medical Marijuana

Aloha Chairs Green and Baker and Members of the Committees!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies for more than a decade. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the 5,800 Hawai`i individuals living behind bars, always mindful that approximately 1,500 Hawai`i individuals are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Native Hawaiians, far from their ancestral lands.

SB 2574 permits board certified pain specialist physicians to prescribe medical marijuana beginning January 2, 2015.

Community Alliance on Prisons opposes limiting the physicians who can recommend medical marijuana to relieve their patients' suffering.

The Medical Marijuana Program was enacted in 2000 as compassionate legislation to help our community members suffering from a variety of ailments.

As the caregiver to three terminally ill patients, I can honestly say that marijuana helped them all during the last months of their lives and enabled them to bid aloha to those they loved

instead of existing in a narcotic stupor. It made a tremendous difference to the patient and to the families and friends in providing closure.

We searched Hawai'i Revised Statutes for the definition of 'primary care physician' and could not find one. We see that as a problem.

We looked up 'board certified pain specialist physician' to understand the intent of this bill. The American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine states:

A pain management specialist is a physician with special training in evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of all different types of pain. Pain is actually a wide spectrum of disorders including acute pain, chronic pain and cancer pain and sometimes a combination of these. Pain can also arise for many different reasons such as surgery, injury, nerve damage, and metabolic problems such as diabetes. Occasionally, pain can even be the problem all by itself, without any obvious cause at all.

We were then curious about the number of 'board certified pain specialist physicians' in Hawai'i nei. A cursory search revealed that there are not many of these specialists across the Hawaiian Islands. O'ahu has 37 pain doctors, with 33 board certified. There appears to be only a handful of pain specialists on our Neighbor Islands and we were not able to determine if they are board certified.

So adding such a restrictive provision makes it difficult, if not impossible, for the patient. This presents a problem for people who need the medicine to relieve their suffering. Would they now have to abandon the relationship they have with the doctor they know and trust to find a 'board certified pain specialist physician'? This contravenes the spirit and intent of this compassionate legislation and places a huge and stressful burden on a patient and/or his or her caregiver.

The last person for whom I was a caregiver was my friend Joe, who was in the last stages of bone cancer. His doctor recommended that he access medical marijuana despite Florida being a state with no medical marijuana program. When he was able to access the medicine, it made a huge difference in the quality of the last few weeks of his life. It was my honor to help him with the transition.

We humbly ask the committees to hold this measure and to please respect the spirit and intent of this compassionate law and not place another burden on our suffering citizens.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>juggler@aloha.net</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 10:15:49 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Graham Ellis	Hawaii Sustainable Community Alliance	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.





Senate Committee on Health:
Sen. Joshua Green, Chair
Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:
Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Monday, February 10, 2014 at 2:00PM
Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Oppose – SB2574 – Relating to Medical Marijuana

Dear Honorable Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs,

Big Island Americans for Safe Access opposes SB2574 because it does not adequately address the problem Act 178 created when it said that only primary care physicians (PCP) can certify a patient for medical cannabis. This bill does not address that deficiency and muddies the waters even further to insert board certified pain specialist physicians into the equation. Why bother doing this? In Big Island ASA's opinion this is a smoke screen preparing us to accept that a patient with chronic pain would be required to see a "pain specialist physician". Passing this bill as it is written is a slippery slope toward this unbeneficial end for patients.

Nothing other than having a licensed physician no matter what their specialty or general practice training should be the ones that qualify patients for cannabis medicine. Please do not insert politics into the equation and revert the wording back to the way it was adopted in 2000.

It is high time that the legislature after 14 years of neglecting patients needs step up to the plate and pass something that is meaningful and helpful to the patients. In the past good bills have been heard that were so altered that they actually did more to harm patients or have died for not being advanced by politically motivated or influenced committee chairs. The patients are following these events and we do not forget who is working in our interests.

The legislature should be hearing bills such as SB686 which substantially improves the lot of patients or one of the dispensary bills which are so greatly needed for island patients to have safe access and a selection of strains which treats various debilitating diseases and conditions. But none of that. We have to define another category of board certified pain management specialty which does absolutely nothing to advance our plight. No caring or compassion seems to be the game plan at the state legislature. It's business as usual where patients are hung up to dry. We are collateral damage or expendables. Simply deplorable.

Andrea Tischler, Chair Big Island Americans for Safe Access Hilo, HI. 96720

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>rangien2010@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 10:57:32 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Puanani Rogers	Ho`okipa Network - Kauai	Support	No	

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>alternativepainmanagementclub@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 2:04:44 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Ruggles	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To require physicians who prescribe medical cannabis to be board certified pain specialist physicians is costly and burdensome, and undermines the intent of Act 228 to compassionately provide patients access to medical cannabis for the relief of debilitating medical conditions. Board certified pain specialist physicians are not readily available in Hawaii and many work for institutions with policies contrary to the intent of Act 228. Furthermore, to require physicians who prescribe medical cannabis to be primary care physicians is problematic for many qualifying patients who go to Kaiser or the VA. I do not support this bill as it is currently written. I am in support of the following change being made to this bill, making it less restrictive to patients and physicians, rather than more restrictive: All physicians licensed to practice in the state of Hawaii shall be permitted to prescribe medical cannabis to qualifying patients.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>sherrianwitt@aol.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 3:32:56 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Su	bmitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sl	nerrian witt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>paulakomarajr@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 3:53:28 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Paul A. komara, Jr.	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: I believe everyone is entitled to use THC medical marijuana for relief of illness and pain.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>rogerstrong1@gmail.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 4:13:29 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
roger strong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>davidbartonmd@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 5:07:47 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Barton MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill allows Pain Medicine Physicians to authorize Blue Cards, in addition to primary care providers. As such I support it, since I am a Board Certified Physician in Pain Medicine, and as a medical cannabis advocate and activist, I would like to continue this practice. The use of cannabis in the specialty of Pain Medicine fills a huge gap in care and treatments, for many chronic pain medical conditions, that otherwise do not have adequate or even minimally effective treatments. The drawback of this bill is that it limits other supportive physicians who might feel they are not legally able to authorize Blue Cards, and make it harder for patients to get them. Another problem with it is that it is unenforceable. There is no legal definition of what is a primary care provider. My opinion is that unenforceable laws should not be written into law. If one is worried about the number of medical cannabis cards being issued to people, who "may not really qualify under the law", then the solution is to set the medical standards of care and physician conduct for the medical cannabis program. This requires the Hawaii State Medical Board to become involved, by law, forcing them to deal with it. When I asked the Hawaii Medical Board to so in 2012, and set the standards, as done by other state Medical boards, they referred me to the NED, as if law enforcement is able to set medical standards of care and conduct! They do not have the expertise to do so, and I do not recall them ever asking any physicians for an opinion. Their legislative attempted solutions seemed to rely on the criminalization of medicine. http://hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/boards/medical/board-meetingminutes/2012-medical-meeting-minutes/Medical... Hawaii Medical Board Minutes of Meeting of April 12, 2012 Page 6, e. David Barton, M.D.: Request for Official Board Position on Practice Standards Relating to Medical Marijuana. Dr. Barton is asking the Board for its official position on practice standards relating to medical marijuana. The Board determined that it is unable to take a position with respect to the State's medical marijuana program as the program does not come under the Board's jurisdiction. Additionally, the corporate practice of medicine is also not under the Board's jurisdiction, emphasizing that the Board only has jurisdiction over individual physicians. The Board advised Dr. Barton to contact the Narcotics Enforcement Division as the program comes under its jurisdiction.

Well, as

they stated, all physicians licensed in this state fall under their authority! However, the State Medical Cannabis program is a health program, not a law enforcement

program. I would suggest that the Legislature fix this in law, rather than limit the authorization of Blue Cards to certain physicians. My other suggestion is to set up an auditing and case review mechanism within the Dept. of Health, which can then refer cases to the State Medical Board. And then to use public awareness of what patients should expect from their doctor! MY POSITION IS: SUPPORT WITH COMMENTS, as stated above. David J Barton, MD Pain Medicine Waimanalo, Hawaii

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>ahuntemer@aol.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 5:46:03 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Huntemer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Access to medical marijuana is LONG overdue. The research is irrefutable. Please support this SB2574

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>lucialyou@gmail.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 6:27:40 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Lucia You	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: res1z0vb@hawaiiantel.net

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 7:32:26 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana G. Moss	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: greg@yourhomebuilder.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 7:52:53 PM

Attachments: <u>testimony420.doc</u>

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
greg kemp	Individual	Comments Only	No	

Comments: Greg Kemp 275 N. Kainalu Dr. Kailua, Hl. 96734 Phone: (808) 262-8043 Cell: 342-2691 Email: greg@yourhomebuilder.com Testimony pertaining to SB2574 Any bill that changes or eliminates my current pain management doctor from recommending medical cannabis will adversely affect my health and wellbeing. Since deciding to try cannabis edible to combat back pain due to arthritis and 32 years of hard construction I have been much more productive with being able to function and think clearly. I consume an edible 2-3 times a day which does not get me wasted but rather allows me to focus on the task at hand not the pain in the back. I had a different doctor who was my "family doctor" but she has been not able to produce any positive results with the physical therapy and pharmaceuticals she suggests I take for my back pain. She had me take a series of xrays to confirm arthritis on the spine. She is unwilling to recommend cannabis. Now I am laid off from work and have lost my insurance and cannot afford the "family doctor". If it were not for the fact that my pain management doctor charges practically nothing for his lengthy examination and blue card processing, as well as a little luck growing my own I would be hurting and unproductive, unable to afford any other remedy. Please insure safe access to effective pain medicine by continuing to allow my pain management doctor to examine and recommend medical cannabis for safe and affordable chronic pain management. Mahalo, Greg Kemp

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Greg Kemp

275 N. Kainalu Dr. Kailua, Hl. 96734

Phone: (808) 262-8043 Cell: 342-2691 Email: greg@yourhomebuilder.com

Testimony pertaining to SB2574

Any bill that changes or eliminates my current pain management doctor from recommending medical cannabis will adversely affect my health and wellbeing.

Since deciding to try cannabis edible to combat back pain due to arthritis and 32 years of hard construction I have been much more productive with being able to function and think clearly. I consume an edible 2-3 times a day which does not get me wasted but rather allows me to focus on the task at hand not the pain in the back.

I had a different doctor who was my "family doctor" but she has been not able to produce any positive results with the physical therapy and pharmaceuticals she suggests I take for my back pain. She had me take a series of xrays to confirm arthritis on the spine. She is unwilling to recommend cannabis.

Now I am laid off from work and have lost my insurance and cannot afford the "family doctor".

If it were not for the fact that my pain management doctor charges practically nothing for his lengthy examination and blue card processing, as well as a little luck growing my own I would be hurting and unproductive, unable to afford any other remedy.

Please insure safe access to effective pain medicine by continuing to allow my pain management doctor to examine and recommend medical cannabis for safe and affordable chronic pain management.

Mahalo.

Greg Kemp

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>knahale@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 8:08:25 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberly Ann Nahale	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am 55 yrs old and have breast cancer since 2007 which mets to my bones in 2010. I reached the incurable stage of the disease and require chemo treatments every 4 weeks for the rest of my life. I suffer from pain to the point of nausea everyday. Medical marijuana has brought me temporary relief from my pain and suffering without the painful side effects of pain and nausea medications (which just caused me more suffering). I am in total support of legal marijuana dispensaries here in Hawaii so those of us cancer patients that prefer more natural relief from our pain and suffering can have access to a regular supply. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>claudiarice25@gmail.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 8:39:39 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
claudia rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>hilobliss@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 9:06:13 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joy cash	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>aniko2@juno.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 9:11:32 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Avi Okin	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: Let's stop criminalizing medical use of Marijuana.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>n1tya@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 9:25:05 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
fred hofer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: palmtree7@earthlink.net

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 9:37:14 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glenie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>veganmom@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 10:12:45 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dena Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB2574. Marijuana needs to be legalized, not just for medical purposes, but for personal usage. The government's job is to serve and to protect, not to regulate and profit from substances such as marijuana. Please support this bill. Mahalo!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>kauaihale@gmail.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 11:04:28 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louisa Wooton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>autumnness@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 11:20:47 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
autumn ness	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>naupaka@juno.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 11:30:21 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted	d By O	rganization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandy	,	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: angelavideotron@gmail.com

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 12:13:11 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Breene	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>yorkcarlton@gmail.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 4:11:39 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Subm	nitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carlt	on York	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>paikoman@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 4:32:16 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Hallett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>doctorforgolf@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 6:30:05 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Gregory Hungerford	Individual	Support	No

Comments: There is a problematic provision in Act 178 that reads: The certifying physician shall be required to be the qualifying patient's primary care physician. This provision will prevent many qualified patients from having access to medical cannabis because some insurance providers and doctors at the VA are prevented from recommending medical marijuana. Adding "board certified pain specialist physicians" is a step in the right direction but does not go far enough. Any doctor that determines that marijuana is what is best for their patient should be able to recommend it, and legislators should not get between doctors and their patients. This bill is a step in the right direction, but must be expanded to include all licensed doctors. Currently, several groups of doctors including those at the VA and those at Kaiser, are unable to recommend medical marijuana because of organization-wide policies. If this provision is not amended it may force some patients to decide between staying with a doctor that they know and trust, and a medicine that is safe and effective. There is no reason to put sick people in that position.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>milolii12@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 7:23:09 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melia Leslie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support medicinal marijuana! I have seen the benefits of the usage that my friends/family have gotten from this miracle plant!! Please support this bill thu! MAHALO!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>erika.goddess@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 8:13:00 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erika Schneider	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Please vote YES on this amendment. It will help make the registration process smoother and easier for people like me. I have Systemic Lupus, it's an auto-immune disorder that causes the immune system to attack the internal organs. It also causes severe pain throughout the body and joints. Cannabis has been shown in multiple peer-reviewed studies to be helpful for the treatment of Lupus because it reduces inflammation and immune flare-ups. Many studies indicate that cannabis is able to keep Lupus in FULL REMISSION for patients like me! I would LOVE for my Lupus to be in full remission! As a single mother of three, I struggle many days to get out of bed. I am in pain constantly, and worry about the future. So Why do I not currently have a medical marijuana card if it is so helpful for keeping Lupus in full remission? Because under the current system, it costs too much for me to afford. There is currently no physician on Kauai who will write the Rx for it, so I would have to be certified by a Dr. on the Big Island who travels here. The cost would be close to \$350 for me to become certified, I cannot afford it. If my Primary Care Physician were able to certify me, then I would be able to afford certification for \$35 and the cost of a Dr. visit. It could mean full remission for me, and possibly years added to my life by reducing inflamation. It also seems SAFER to do it this way because a Dr. from another island that sees me only once, is not aware of my complete and complex medical history. By having people get certified through their regular physician, it makes sure that cannabis is the right medicine for their condition, that their full medical history is known, and that there is a real and genuine need for the medicine. In summary, I ask you to support this amendment because: 1. This amendment would make it affordable for me and many others who truly need the medicine but cannot afford off-island physicians. 2. This amendment will make it safer for patients, because they will be getting certification from their regular Dr. who knows their full medical history, contradictions and diagnosis. 3. This amendment will also eliminate people who see a new off-island Dr. once, and try to get certified in a half hour visit. By certification going through their primary care physician, their medical history, diagnosis and Rx is known and it can be determined if cannabis is truly the right treatment for them and there is genuine need. Mahalo for your time, this seems like a thoughtful, well written amendment that will help patients and physicians make better choices on treating conditions such as mine.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>cyndee@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 9:22:01 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cyndee Kavula	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please allow Pain Medicine Physicians to authorize Blue Cards, in addition to primary care providers. Please stop limiting physicians who might feel they are not legally able to authorize Blue Cards, which make it difficult for qualified patients to get them.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>j.bobich@tcu.edu</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 9:37:14 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Joseph A. Bobich	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: To Whom It May Concern: This measure would substantially improve the workings of Hawai'i's medical marijuana regulations, so I support it wholeheartedly. Sincerely, Joseph A. Bobich, Ph. D. Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>deborah@imaginariums.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 10:30:50 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>duvallnaturopath@hotmail.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 11:21:30 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Dodge ND	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Naturopathic physicians, who are well trained in the use of botanical medicines should have a leading role in the education of patients who wish to use cannabis medically. In fact , N.D.'s are the only physicians in the U.S. that are trained to differentiate between plant medicines and drugs, aware of their toxicity profiles and side effects. Cannabis is quite safe when taken orally, for instance. It would be a travesty to exclude experts in natural medicine from this legislation, SB 2574 , or any other. Peter Dodge , M.Sc., N.D. Hawaii County, HI

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: mattbinder@earthlink.net

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 12:20:15 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Binder	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Chairman Green and committee members, This bill means virtually nothing. There are very few pain specialists in Hawaii and the bill will have very little impact. It seems like it is nothing more than a way to say you are doing something to fix the terrible mistake you made in the last session without really doing anything. Please focus on the main problem: It is very difficult for sick people who need medical marijuana to obtain it legally. This kind of nibbling around the edges just makes you look foolish. Thank you, Matt Binder Kamuela

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>mamaupin@hotmail.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 12:20:27 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Maupin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>jgelert@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 3:13:06 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
John Gelert	Individual	Support	No]

Comments: Please support all physicians that want to prescribe medical marijuana for pain or cancer therapy!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>hello_karen@rocketmail.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 3:48:05 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Martinez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>allanreaves@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 3:52:13 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allan Reaves	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>beamiracle@acrosage.org</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 12, 2014 13:30PM*

Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 11:04:29 AM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 12, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin Marantz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

To: <u>HTHTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>lynhowe1946@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2574 on Feb 12, 2014 13:30PM*

Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 12:25:28 PM

SB2574

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Feb 12, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.